Listing of Claims:

Claim 1-3.   (canceled).

Claim 4.   (currently amended):   A protocol device in a protocol system for transmitting messages, comprising:

a part ~~for determining~~that determines, based on protocol information which is contained in a control message received by the protocol device, whether the control message contains information that is newer than a current information state in the protocol device; and

a part ~~for updating~~that updates~~, if necessary,~~ the information state based on the determination.

Claim 5.   (previously presented):   A protocol device in a protocol system for transmitting messages as claimed in claim 4, wherein the protocol device additionally successively numbers received control messages for which it cannot reconstruct a sequence of the received control messages based on the protocol information.

Claim 6.   (previously presented):   A protocol device in a protocol system for transmitting messages as claimed in claim 4, wherein the control messages are messages for flow control.

Claim 7.   (previously presented):   A protocol device in a protocol system for transmitting messages as claimed in claim 4, wherein the part for determining stores at least part of the control message in place of the current information that is newer than a current information state in the protocol device.

Claim 8.   (previously presented)   A protocol device in a protocol system for transmitting messages as claimed in claim 4, wherein the protocol device operates under a MSSCOP transmission protocol.

Claim 9.   (previously presented)   A protocol device in a protocol system for transmitting messages as claimed in claim 8, wherein the control message is one of STAT-PDU and USTAT-PDU.

Claim 10.   (previously presented)   A protocol device in a protocol system for transmitting messages as claimed in claim 9, wherein a last list element of the control message is a removed bit of protocol information, and is used as a parameter when the control message does not contain a list element.